

We claim:

1. A dispenser for fluid materials comprising:

a handle portion for removably receiving a cartridge containing said fluid materials, said handle comprising a mount configured to receive one end of said cartridge and support said cartridge in an orientation extending forwardly of said handle portion such that said cartridge can be rotated about a longitudinal axis of said cartridge, a plunger mounted for linear motion along said longitudinal axis of said cartridge, and a trigger mechanism for advancing said plunger into said cartridge to expel said fluid materials, said trigger mechanism comprising a trigger positioned to be engaged and actuated by a user's finger and a gripper mechanism connected to said trigger to engage said plunger in response to application of force to said trigger by said user, wherein said gripper mechanism engages said plunger upon application of pressure to said trigger and disengages completely from said plunger to allow said plunger to move away from said cartridge upon release of pressure from said trigger.

2. A dispenser according to claim 1 wherein said plunger comprises a surface having a plurality of teeth spaced in the direction of said longitudinal axis to be engaged by said gripper when pressure is applied to said trigger.

3. A dispenser according to claim 1 wherein said plunger comprises a substantially continuous resilient surface to be engaged by said gripper when pressure is applied to said trigger.

4. A dispenser according to claim 1 wherein said mount comprises an annular slot having an angular extent of about 180 degrees.

5. A dispenser according to claim 1 wherein said handle portion further comprises a drag element engaging said plunger to prevent excessive movement of said plunger away from said cartridge upon release of pressure from said trigger.

6. A dispenser according to claim 1 wherein said trigger mechanism further comprises a pressure relief element.

7. A dispenser according to claim 6 wherein said pressure relief element comprises a spring.

8. A dispenser according to claim 1 wherein said trigger mechanism comprises a return spring attached between said gripper and said shell.

9. A dispenser according to claim 9 in further combination with said cartridge.

10. A dispenser according to claim 1 in further combination with a heater stand for heating said cartridge when attached to said handle.